

007 TOUCH HITS

AMATEUR SOCCER

By HARRY DONE

Bedford soccer fans need not be alarmed if they see a stranger "talking to himself" as he watches with tense interest at one of their matches within the next fortnight.

He will be talking into a concealed microphone and making a 90-minute commentary which will never be broadcast to the public.

The new 007 agent of soccer is **Wycombe Wanderers** coach Barry Darvill and he has hit upon this novel idea of taping one of Bedford's games as part of the preparations for their FA Cup-tie against these professionals at Loakes Park on Saturday week.

Darvill, works personnel and training officer with a Wycombe furniture firm, will be equipped with a special portable tape-recorder and the commentary will be played back to his players at their training session on Thursday week.

Bad patch

"Wycombe have struck a bad patch in their last two games and this is one reason why I have decided to give them the most detailed assessment of our FA Cup opponents," explained 34-year-old Darvill.

"In the past I have taken notes while spying on opponents before important cup-

ties but this approach should prove far more efficient.

"I shall be describing Bedford's play and tactics, assessing individual players on the field, and making on-the-spot observations on how my players can best counter this opposition.

Recover

"The idea is to capture the atmosphere so that the whole thing becomes far more intimate than handing out notes to my players when we have our final tactical talk two days before the tie."

Wycombe are one of the best supported amateur clubs in the country and Darvill still believes they are capable of reaching the second round of the FA Cup if his players can recover form after two successive home defeats against Wealdstone and Leytonstone.

Last season Wycombe held Guildford City to a 2-2 draw away from home in the first round. Wycombe became the last amateur club in the competition but they lost the replay by an only goal at Loakes Park.